

The Osprey Fly Box

by Will Wright

“The Ultimate Chironomid”

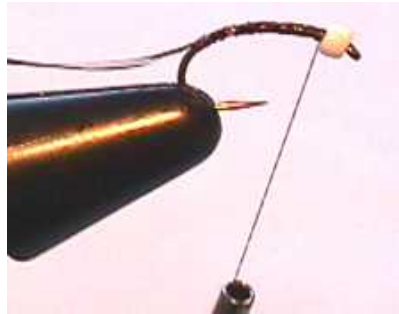
In the short time, I've been our BCFFF rep; I've had the pleasure to meet (via email) Executive Director Greg Gordon. Greg's fortunate to live in Kamloops and is a member of the Thompson River Flyfishers, as well as the Penticton Flyfishers. I sent Greg one of our newsletters a couple months ago, and when he offered to send me a killer chironomid patter to use I said "Hell ya!" As well as providing me with a history of the pattern and step-by-step instructions, he also sent the following photos, which really made my job easy, **thanks Greg!**

Greg tells me he learned this tie from Robert Koopmans who is a local outdoors newspaper reporter and a club member. The original Ultimate Chironomid came from a member of the Kamloops Flyfishing Association named Herman Fischer. Herman teaches advanced fly tying at the Kamloops Fly Shop and is the fly designer for Roots Fly Fishing Products Inc.

Hook: TMC 2487 Size 8-16
Head: White Bead
Body: Thread, Flashabou or?
Rib: Root's Elite Lace (clear) filled with vegetable oil and fine copper wire
Shoulder: Peacock Herl

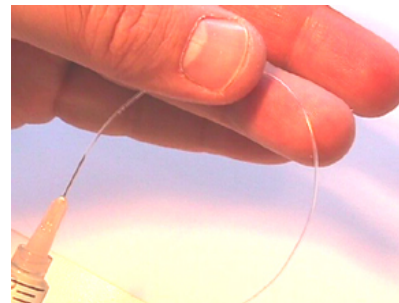
Place bead on hook shank behind eye, prepare shank with head cement and tie in thread.

Tie in body material if using other than thread. Wrap to bend in hook.



Working with about five inches of Elite Lace, inject with veggie oil until full.

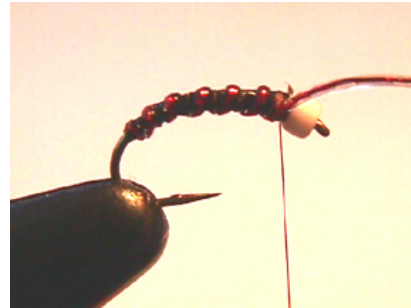
Feed about seven inches of small copper wire through centre of Elite Lace.



Tie in Elite Lace behind bead and wrap to hook bend, s-t-r-e-t-c-h-i-n-g the lace. Ensure that the copper wire is locked in too.



Wrap body material forward and trim excess. S-t-r-e-t-c-h the Lace and wrap forward as rib (6 ribs) gradually reducing tension approaching the eye. The intent is to taper the body. Trim excess.



Tie in peacock herl and make three or four wraps behind bead. Trim excess. Whip finish.



Greg recommends fishing this pattern as you would any chironomid. You purists out there will no doubt fish it naked (sans indicator). He says this fly is durable and a variety of colour combinations can be used. The red Elite Lace makes an excellent fly too. He likes to use black Flashabou as a body material and has found it particularly effective at Sawmill Lake. Greg will be there for our joint trip with the Penticton club, looking forward to it!

